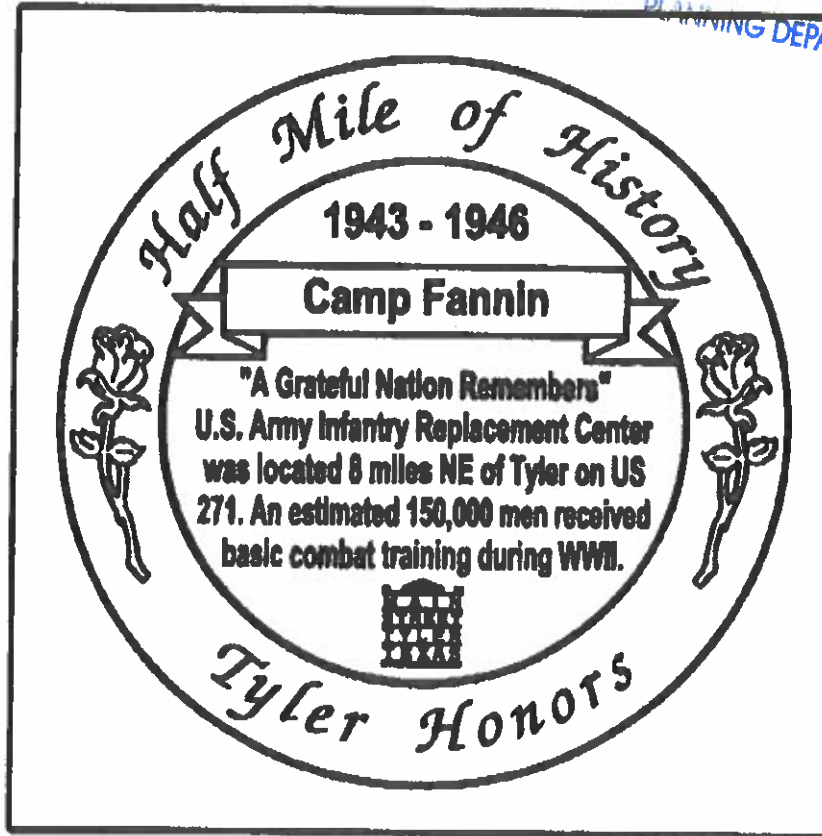


RECEIVED

SEP 23 2009

PLANNING DEPARTMENT



Total Cost - 500.00 each delivered

The Lettering on this stone is smaller than we recommend  
 We cannot guaranty the lettering.  
 Sign and fax back to 817-624-8428

Approved  
 9/23/09  
 Heather  
 Nick

09/17/09

Fort Worth Monument Company  
5811 Jacksboro Hwy  
Fort Worth, TX 76114  
Fax Number: (817) 624-8428

James,

Please remit proofs to 903-531-1170.  
We are expecting to have our ceremony on November 11th.  
Please let me know when these will be ready for shipment.

## CAMP FANNIN

1943-1946

“A Grateful Nation Remembers”

U.S. Army Infantry Replacement Center was located 8 miles NE of Tyler on US 271. An estimated 150,000 men received basic combat training during WWII.

Thanks,  
Heather  
Senior Planner  
903-531-1174

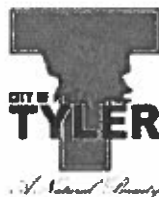
**Heather Nick**

---

**From:** Heather Newman

**Sent:** Wednesday, August 26, 2009 11:15 AM

**Subject:** Council adds Camp Fannin to list of Half Mile of History honorees



**CITY OF TYLER COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE**

**Heather Newman**

**Marketing/Public Relations Specialist**

**Office (903) 531-1272**

**hnewman@tylertexas.com**

## Press Release

For Immediate Release

Aug. 26, 2009

### **Council adds Camp Fannin to list of Half Mile of History honorees**

During their meeting held on Wednesday, Aug. 26, the Tyler City Council voted unanimously to add Camp Fannin to the Downtown's Half-Mile of History. The marker dedication will be held on Veteran's Day, Wednesday, Nov. 11.

The **Half-Mile of History program** was launched in February 2008, as a result of a recommendation from the Tyler 21 Plan, to promote and display diverse aspects of Tyler's history to enhance resident and visitor awareness of its importance. The Half-Mile of History is a permanent, outdoor, half-mile heritage trail that surrounds the square in the heart of downtown Tyler. Stone monuments are imbedded in the sidewalk along the Half-Mile of History in recognition of people, places or events significant to Tyler's history.

#### **Camp Fannin**

The U.S. Government War Department created Camp Fannin in 1942. With the support of U.S. Congressman Lindley Beckworth, U.S. Senator Tom Connally and a group of Tyler business leaders (including: Henry Marsh Bell, Abe Pounds, Sam R. Greer and John Stephens), a 15,000-acre site eight miles northeast of downtown Tyler was selected for the camp.

The federal government purchased more than 2,000 acres for the training center and leased 13,000 acres for use as bivouac areas, rifle ranges, machine gun ranges and other areas necessary for the training of U.S. Army recruits and draftees. The camp opened in March 1943 and received its first recruits for training in May 1943. The last training cycle ended in December 1945. It is estimated that more than 200,000 young men were trained at Camp Fannin and an estimated 2,000 civilians were employed at the camp during its peak. In all, up to 30,000 men and women were at the camp on a daily basis.

At the end of World War II, Camp Fannin was used as a discharge center and was deactivated in June of 1946. In 1948, the War Assets Administration deeded the station hospital and 647 acres to the State of Texas for use as a tuberculosis hospital. The remainder of the 2,000 acres of land was sold; much of

8/26/2009

it was purchased by local business leaders and is now known as Owentown and the East Texas Center.

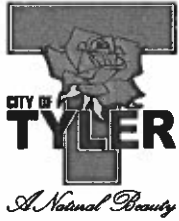
In Gordon Neilson's book, Camp Fannin Texas...A 50 Year Perspective, a foreword by U.S. Congressman Ralph Hall states, "Camp Fannin made an invaluable contribution to Tyler and East Texas. In return, the area was able to make a tremendous contribution to the war effort. After the end of World War II, the camp freezer plant became Consolidated Nurseries, planting the seeds for a thriving new rose-growing industry. Other buildings from the camp became the forerunner of what is today the University of Texas Health Center at Tyler..."

Gordon Neilson cites a number of businesses in Tyler that felt the immediate economic impact that Camp Fannin had on the City of Tyler and Smith County. Citizens National Bank was named as the depository for the huge payroll and operating funds of the camp; Sam Hill Lumber Co. and Gulf State Lumber Co. were major suppliers of lumber and materials for the camp; Hugh White built the camp laundry and P.M. Campbell and Luther Kay, Jr. built the hospital power plant and the tall brick smokestack, which is still in existence today.

During the war, the citizens of Tyler welcomed Camp Fannin trainees into their homes, churches and businesses. Young men from throughout the United States celebrated most of their weekend passes in Tyler. Many of the trainees met their future spouses while at Camp Fannin and settled in Tyler after the war. A great number of the "greatest generation" integrated into the Tyler community as bankers, farmers, small businessmen, accountants, and as active and involved citizens.

Today, 66 years after the opening of Camp Fannin, its legacy remains as one of the major influences on the City of Tyler's historic growth.

###



**CITY OF TYLER, TEXAS  
CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION**



**Agenda Number:**

**Date:** August 26, 2009

**Subject:** Request that the City Council consider designating Camp Fannin as a Half Mile of History recipient.

**Page:** 1 of 2

**Item Reference:** Half Mile of History Preservation Program

The Half Mile of History is a cultural and historic landmark program paying tribute to people, places and events that have contributed to the City of Tyler and/or Smith County. The Half Mile of History is a permanent, outdoor walk-around loop that covers an approximate one-half mile stretch of sidewalk surrounding the square in the heart of downtown Tyler. People, places and events chosen for the Half Mile of History are honored with a commemorative plaque placed in the sidewalk.

One of the responsibilities of the Tyler Historical Preservation Board is to recommend people, places and events to be included in the Half Mile of History Preservation Program. On August 5, 2009, the Tyler Historical Preservation Board voted unanimously to recommend Camp Fannin for inclusion in the Half Mile of History Preservation Program. A narrative taken from the application follows:

Camp Fannin was created by the U.S. Government War Department in 1942. With the support of U. S. Congressman Lindley Beckworth and U.S. Senator Tom Connally and a group of Tyler business leaders, including Henry Marsh Bell, Abe Pounds, Sam R. Greer and John Stephens, a 15,000 acre site eight miles northeast of downtown Tyler was selected for the camp.

The federal government purchased 2,000 plus acres for the training center and leased 13,000 acres for use as bivouac areas, rifle ranges, machine gun ranges and other areas necessary for the training of U. S. Army recruits and draftees. The camp opened in March 1943 and received the first recruits for training in May 1943. The last training cycle ended in December 1945. It is estimated that during that time, over 200,000 young men were trained at Camp Fannin. Over 2,000 civilians were employed at the camp at its peak.

**Agenda Number:**

**Page: 2 of 2**

In all, it is estimated that up to 30,000 men and women were at the camp on a day to day basis. At the end of World War II, Camp Fannin was used as a discharge center and was deactivated in June 1946. In 1948, the War Assets Administration deeded the Station Hospital and 647 acres to The State of Texas for use as a tuberculosis hospital. The remaining purchased land was sold off and much of it was purchased by local business leaders and is now known as Owentown and the East Texas Center.

In Gordon Neilson's book, Camp Fannin Texas...A 50 Year Perspective, a Forward by U.S. Congressman Ralph Hall states, "Camp Fannin made an invaluable contribution to Tyler and East Texas. In return, the area was able to make a tremendous contribution to the war effort. After the end of World War II, the camp freezer plant became Consolidated Nurseries, planting the seeds for a thriving new rose-growing industry. Other buildings from the camp became the forerunner of what is today The University of Texas Health Center at Tyler..."

Gordon Neilson's cites a number of businesses in Tyler that felt the immediate economic impact on the City of Tyler and Smith County by Camp Fannin. Citizens National Bank was named depository for the huge payroll and operating funds of the camp; Sam Hill Lumber Co. and Gulf State Lumber Co. were major suppliers of lumber and materials for the camp; Hugh White built the camp laundry and P.M. Campbell and Luther Kay, Jr. built the hospital power plant and the tall brick smokestack (still in existence today).

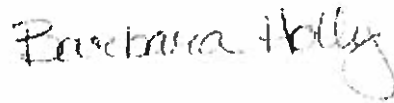
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Today, 66 years after the opening of Camp Fannin, its legacy remains as one of the major influences on the City of Tyler's historic growth. In addition to University of Texas Health Science Center at Tyler (UTHSCT's) continued economic impact on the area (as the largest state employer in Smith County) the area now known as Owentown and East Texas Center has evolved into a business and residential location. Ironically, the water system and sewage system installed when Camp Fannin was built are still in use. The smokestack remains as do a few water wells, but for the most part, the concrete slab foundations are all that remain of the original camp.

If approved, the Camp Fannin Half Mile of History Ceremony will be held on Veteran's Day, November 11, 2009.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

The Tyler Historical Preservation Board, by a unanimous vote, request that the City Council approve the designation of Camp Fannin as a Half Mile of History recipient.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barbara Holly".

**Drafted/Recommended By:            Barbara Holly**  
**Department Leader**

**Edited/Submitted By:**  
**City Manager**

CAMP FANNIN, TEXAS  
MARCH 1943—JUNE 1946

---

U. S. ARMY  
INFANTRY REPLACEMENT TRAINING CENTER  
WAS LOCATED 8 MILES NE OF TYLER ON US 271  
AN ESTIMATED 150,000 MEN RECEIVED  
BASIC COMBAT TRAINING DURING WWII  
“A GRATFUL NATION REMEMBERS”



09/17/09

Fort Worth Monument Company  
5811 Jacksboro Hwy  
Fort Worth, TX 76114  
Fax Number: (817) 624-8428

James,

Please remit proofs to 903-531-1170.  
We are expecting to have our ceremony on November 11th.  
Please let me know when these will be ready for shipment.

## CAMP FANNIN

1943-1946

“A Grateful Nation Remembers”

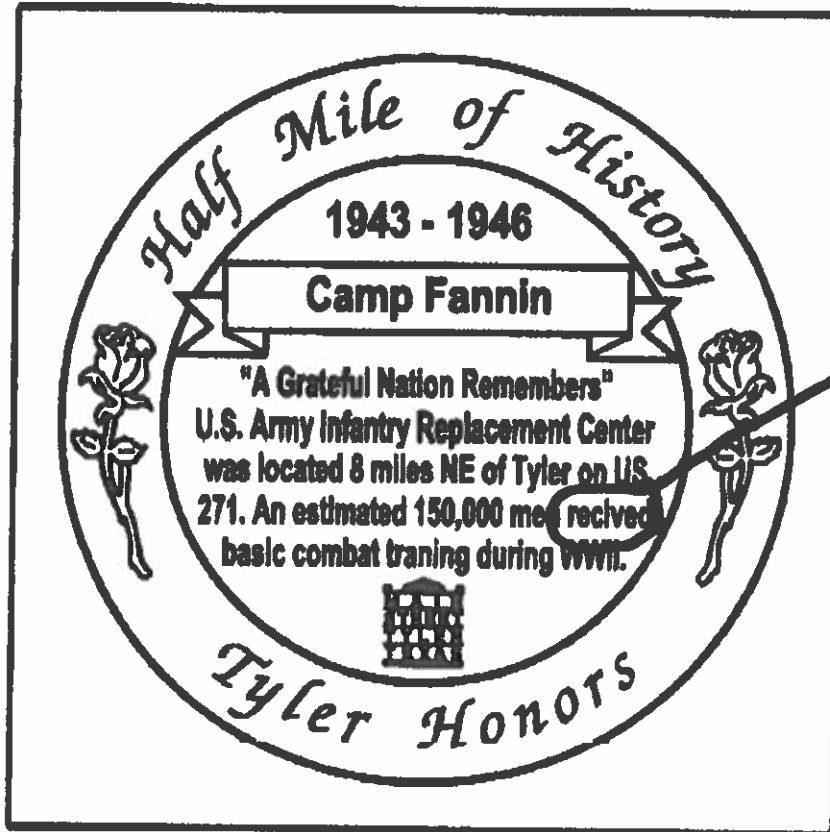
U.S. Army Infantry Replacement Center was located 8 miles NE of Tyler on US 271. An estimated 150,000 men received basic combat training during WWII.

Thanks,  
Heather  
Senior Planner  
903-531-1174

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SEP 22 2009

PLANNING DEPARTMENT



received

**Total Cost - 500.00 each delivered**

**The Lettering on this stone is smaller than we recommend  
 We cannot guaranty the lettering.  
 Sign and fax back to 817-624-8428**

Word misspelled

Heather

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Thursday, August 6, 2009

TYLER

Posted on Thursday, August 06, 2009

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Camp Fannin Nominated For Half Mile Of History Marker

By CASEY KNAUPP Staff Writer

Camp Fannin, where about 200,000 United States Army infantrymen trained from 1943 to 1946, could soon be honored with a Half Mile of History marker in downtown Tyler.

On Wednesday, Tyler's Historical Preservation Board recommended to city council members that the application for the stone, made by Camp Fannin Association President John A. Anderson, be approved.

Local SECURITY at the Touch of a Button 903.593.3225 East Texas ALARM, Inc. 24-HOUR MONITORING

The Half Mile of History program was established to promote aspects of Tyler's history through a permanent outdoor half-mile heritage trail surrounding the downtown square. The stone monuments are in recognition of people, places or events significant to Tyler's history.

Anderson and past Camp Fannin Association president David Wendt, a World War II veteran who was a member of the last graduating class of Camp Fannin in 1945, attended

Wednesday's meeting.

The Camp Fannin Association was formed in the 1990s and has hundreds of members.

Anderson said Camp Fannin is a part of Tyler's history and World War II veterans would be "most appreciative of having a Half Mile of History marker in downtown Tyler." He said if it is approved by city council, they would like the dedication ceremony to be held on Nov. 11 -- Veteran's Day.

On Veteran's Day in 1943, Camp Fannin's Infantry Re-placement Training Center training regiments marched into Tyler, around the square and back to the camp, he said.

Camp Fannin took more people to build than there were people living in Tyler and while it was open, from 1943 to 1946, the camp had about 30,000 people living there at any given time, including soldiers, civilians and German prisoners of war, he said.

After the camp closed, 2,000 acres that is now Owentown were auctioned and 640 acres were given to the state, where The University of Texas Health Science Center is now located.

Anderson said economically, Camp Fannin was a "boom" during war time and continues to be a "boom." He said several barracks moved from the camp are still used, scattered throughout Tyler.

HISTORY

Camp Fannin was created by the U.S. Government War Department in 1942. With

MORE NEWS

Latest Tyler Talk

- Aug. 4: Respect The Veteran (No heading) - 08/05/09 08:01:00 PM
Aug. 4: Foundation Of Our Nation Your first guess - 08/05/09 02:15:00 PM
Hannity Draws Crowd At Tyler Appearance Re: Opiate of the masses... - 08/05/09 12:05:00 PM
Aug. 4: Respect The Veteran Re: Disrespect! - 08/05/09 11:55:00 AM
August 2: Not Respectable Re: He's no leader - 08/05/09 11:47:00 AM
August 2: The Republic Lives Re: More arrogance from the left - 08/05/09 11:46:00 AM
August 2: Health Care Truth Re: Oxymoron (emphasis on the morons) - 08/05/09 11:46:00 AM
August 2: Whose Idea? Re: What if...(insert complaint here) - 08/05/09 11:32:00 AM

Top 10 Most Read Articles

- Police: Tot, 2, Shoots Another Tot, 2 08/05/09
Tyler Man's Granddaughter Dies From Bus Crash Injuries 08/05/09
Hot Car Puts Pet Puppy At Risk 08/05/09
Former Bullard Secretary's Probation Revoked 08/05/09
Ex-Tyler ISD Superintendent Out As Richardson Schools' Leader 08/05/09
5 Vehicles Involved in Wreck on Loop 323 at McDonald Road 08/04/09
Crime Watch: Deputies Respond To Stabbing Report 08/05/09
Smith Grand Jury Hands Up 27 Indictments 08/05/09
Football Star's Mother Dies At Age 85 08/04/09
Identification of Found Skull Remains Elusive 08/04/09

MULTIMEDIA

tylertube

See More Video >>

Video thumbnails: Dog Rescued From Hot Car, Vacuum Cleaner Hospital, Exotic Fish in Tyler

The camp received its first recruits for training in May 1943 and the last training cycle ended in December 1945. More than 200,000 men were trained and more than 2,000 civilians were employed. A detachment of Women's Army Auxiliary Corps was assigned to the camp.

At the end of World War II, the camp was used as a discharge center and was deactivated in June 1946. In 1948, the War Assets Administration deeded the Station Hospital and 647 acres to the state to use as a tuberculosis hospital.

"Today, 66 years after the opening of Camp Fannin, its legacy remains as one of the major influences on the city of Tyler's historic growth," Anderson said in his letter nominating the camp for a Half Mile of History marker.

Many of the people based at the camp settled in Tyler after the war and a great number of the "greatest generation" integrated into the community as active and involved citizens, he wrote.



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**CITY OF TYLER  
HALF MILE OF HISTORY  
CHECKLIST**

Please check level of significance where applicable:

	Greatly Demonstrates	Demonstrates
Local Contribution	✓	
State/Regional Contribution	✓	
National Contribution	✓	
Participation in Organizations	✓	
Leadership Roles within Organizations	✓	
Honors Received	✓	

1-HM08-09-015



NOMINATION FORM  
HALF MILE OF HISTORY

Section A: Nomination Information

Name of Nominated person, place or event: Camp Fanning, U.S. Army, DRTC

The nominee is being honored for outstanding contributions in the area(s) of (please check all that apply):

<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment/Media	<input type="checkbox"/> Philanthropy
<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government/Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion
<input type="checkbox"/> Arts and Culture	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science
<input type="checkbox"/> Aviation	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention/Innovation	<input type="checkbox"/> Sports
<input type="checkbox"/> Business/Corporate Leadership	<input type="checkbox"/> Law	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> Community Service	<input type="checkbox"/> Medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Oil/Gas	

Section B: Nominator's Information

Name of person making nomination: JOHN A. ANDERSON

Address: 4108 BEALL CIRCLE

City: TYLER State: TX Zip: 75701

Daytime telephone: 903 330-1000 Email: JOHNANDERSON09@SBCGLOBAL.NET

Relationship to nominated individual:  
PRESIDENT, CAMP FANNING ASSOCIATION

Nominated Individual's year of death: \_\_\_\_\_

Section C: Narrative

The narrative section of the application is the most important. It is the primary source of information judges use to make their selection of new inductees. Two (2) typed pages of 12-point type is the maximum acceptable length of the narrative. Any additional material will be referred to only for verification of accuracy of the nomination. No submitted materials will be returned.

The narrative section must contain an explanation of the nominee's enduring contribution that make this person/place/event worthy of the honor. Please describe the impact the nominee has had on the community, county, region, nation and/or world. For Individuals, please include any honors earned by the nominee as well as a list of organizations in which the nominee has been involved. Also, please indicate their educational background as well as the length of time the individual has lived in Smith County. Inclusion of photos is preferred but optional. Do not send original photos. All submitted materials will become property of the City of Tyler and its Historical Preservation Board.

Please submit nominations to:  
City of Tyler Historical Preservation Board  
Attention: Half Mile of History  
P.O. Box 2039  
Tyler, Texas 75710

Legal rev 2/18/08

RECEIVED  
JUL 15 2009

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

City of Tyler  
Nomination Form  
Half Mile of History

Section C: Narrative

The Board of Directors of Camp Fannin Association is pleased to submit this application for the recognition of

**Camp Fannin, Texas, U. S. Army Infantry Replacement Training Center.**

Camp Fannin was created by the U.S Government War Department in 1942. With the support of U. S. Congressman Lindley Beckworth and U.S. Senator Tom Connally and a group of Tyler business leaders, including Henry Marsh Bell, Abe Pounds, Sam R. Greer and John Stephens, a 15,000 acre site eight miles northeast of downtown Tyler was selected for the camp.

The federal government purchased 2,000 plus acres for the training center and leased 13,000 acres for use as bivouac areas, rifle ranges, machine gun ranges and other areas necessary for the training of U. S. Army recruits and draftees. The camp opened in March 1943 and received the first recruits for training in May 1943. The last training cycle ended in December 1945. It is estimated that during that time, over 200,000 young men were trained at Camp Fannin. Over 2,000 civilians were employed at the camp at its peak. A detachment of Women's Army Auxiliary Corps's (WAAC's) was assigned to the camp and over 3,000 permanent party (Cadre). In all, it is estimated that up to 30,000 men and women were at the camp on a day to day basis. At the end of World War II, Camp Fannin was used as a discharge center and was deactivated in June 1946. In 1948, the War Assets Administration deeded the Station Hospital and 647 acres to The State of Texas for use as a tuberculosis hospital. The remaining purchased land was sold off and much of it was purchased by local business leaders and is now known as Owentown and the East Texas Center.

In Gordon Neilson's book, Camp Fannin Texas...A 50 Year Perspective, a Forward by U.S. Congressman Ralph Hall states, "Camp Fannin made an invaluable contribution to Tyler and East Texas. In return, the area was able to make a tremendous contribution to the war effort. After the end of World War II, the camp freezer plant became Consolidated Nurseries, planting the seeds for a thriving new rose-growing industry. Other buildings from the camp became the forerunner of what is today The University of Texas Health Center at Tyler..."

Gordon Neilson's cites a number of businesses in Tyler that felt the immediate economic impact on the City of Tyler and Smith County by Camp Fannin, Citizens National Bank was named depository for the huge payroll and operating funds of the camp, Sam Hill Lumber Co. and Gulf State Lumber Co. were major suppliers of lumber and materials for the camp, Hugh White built the camp laundry and P.M. Campbell and Luther Kay, Jr. built the hospital power plant and the tall brick smokestack.

City of Tyler  
Nomination Form  
Half Mile of History  
Camp Fannin, Texas


Page two

Section C: Narrative (continued)

During the war Camp Fannin trainees were welcomed by the citizens of Tyler into their homes, churches and businesses. Most weekend passes were celebrated in Tyler by young men from throughout the United States. Many of the trainees and permanent party met their future spouse while at Camp Fannin and settled in Tyler after the war. A great number of the "greatest generation" integrated into the Tyler community as bankers, farmers, small businessmen, accountants, and as active and involved citizens.

Today, 66 years after the opening of Camp Fannin, its legacy remains as one of the major influences on the City of Tyler's historic growth. In addition to UTHSCT's continued economic impact on the area, as the largest state employer in Smith County, the area now known as Owentown and East Texas Center has evolved into a business and residential location. Ironically, the water system and sewage system installed when Camp Fannin was build are still in use. The smokestack remains as do a few water wells, but for the most part, the concrete slab foundations are all that remain of the original camp.

On behalf of the Camp Fannin veterans, civil service employees and USO volunteers at the camp, the Camp Fannin Association is pleased to submit this application. Thank you for your consideration of this application.

  
John A. Anderson  
President  
Camp Fannin Association  
P. O. Box 132024  
Tyler, TX 75713



**HALF MILE OF HISTORY**  
**Camp Fannin**  
**THURSDAY, NOV. 11, 2009**  
**11:11 A.M.**  
**GALLERY MAIN STREET**

- I. **MAYOR OPENS THE CEREMONY** with welcome and announcement of Presentation of the Colors by Tyler Fire Department (asks audience to please stand).
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance**
- III. **Prayer**
- IV. **MAYOR CONTINUES** with review of the Half Mile of History program.
  - **Background Information:** The City of Tyler's historic preservation program, the Half Mile of History, resulted from a recommendation that came out of the Tyler 21 planning process. The fifth goal of the Historic Preservation Chapter is:
    - *"Promote and display diverse aspects of Tyler's history to enhance resident and visitor awareness of its importance."*
    - The goal of the Half Mile of History is to pay tribute to people, places and events that have contributed to the rich history of Tyler and Smith County.
    - The Half Mile of History is a permanent, outdoor, half-mile loop that surrounds the square in the heart of downtown Tyler. Stone plaques are placed in the sidewalk along the Half Mile of History to commemorate significant people, places or events.
    - **Previous Half Mile of History honorees** include Gov. Richard Bennett Hubbard, Sen. Thomas Glover Pollard, Wood T. Brookshire, the Tyler Woman's Building, Shirley Simons, Doc Witt, Texas College and several other important people and places in our history.
    - **And now I would like to introduce the Planning Director Barbara Holly to share with you the history of Camp Fannin.**
- V. **PLANNING DIRECTOR Barbara Holly** reads history of Camp Fannin:

The U.S. Government War Department created Camp Fannin in 1942. With the support of U.S. Congressman Lindley Beckworth, U.S. Senator Tom Connally and a group of Tyler business leaders (including: Henry Marsh Bell, Abe Pounds, Sam R. Greer and John Stephens), a 15,000-acre site eight miles northeast of downtown Tyler was selected for the camp.

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Today, 66 years after the opening of Camp Fannin, its legacy remains as one of the major influences on the City of Tyler's historic growth.

**IV: MAYOR** congratulates representatives of Camp Fannin and presents certificate.

- **MAYOR** then invites the representatives to remain and help her unveil the new marker.
- **MAYOR** announces musical tribute by Tyler Police Department (bugler).
- **MAYOR** invites Camp Fannin representative to offer response.
- **MAYOR** again congratulates Camp Fannin representatives and asks members of Council present to comment.
- **MAYOR** announces awards presented to Tyler by the Texas Downtown Association
  - **Best Downtown Business: Discovery Science Place**
  - **Best Adaptive Reuse: Moore Grocery Lofts**
  - **Best Marketing Program: Goodman Video**
  - **Best Public Partner: City of Tyler**

**And certification as a National Main Street Program by reaching high standards in program management.**

**V: MAYOR** announces upcoming **ArtWalk** (our first ever) on Dec. 4, 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

**VI: MAYOR** thanks everyone for attending and reminds those in attendance that future installations will come in the near future.

# CAMP FANNIN VETERANS MEMORIAL

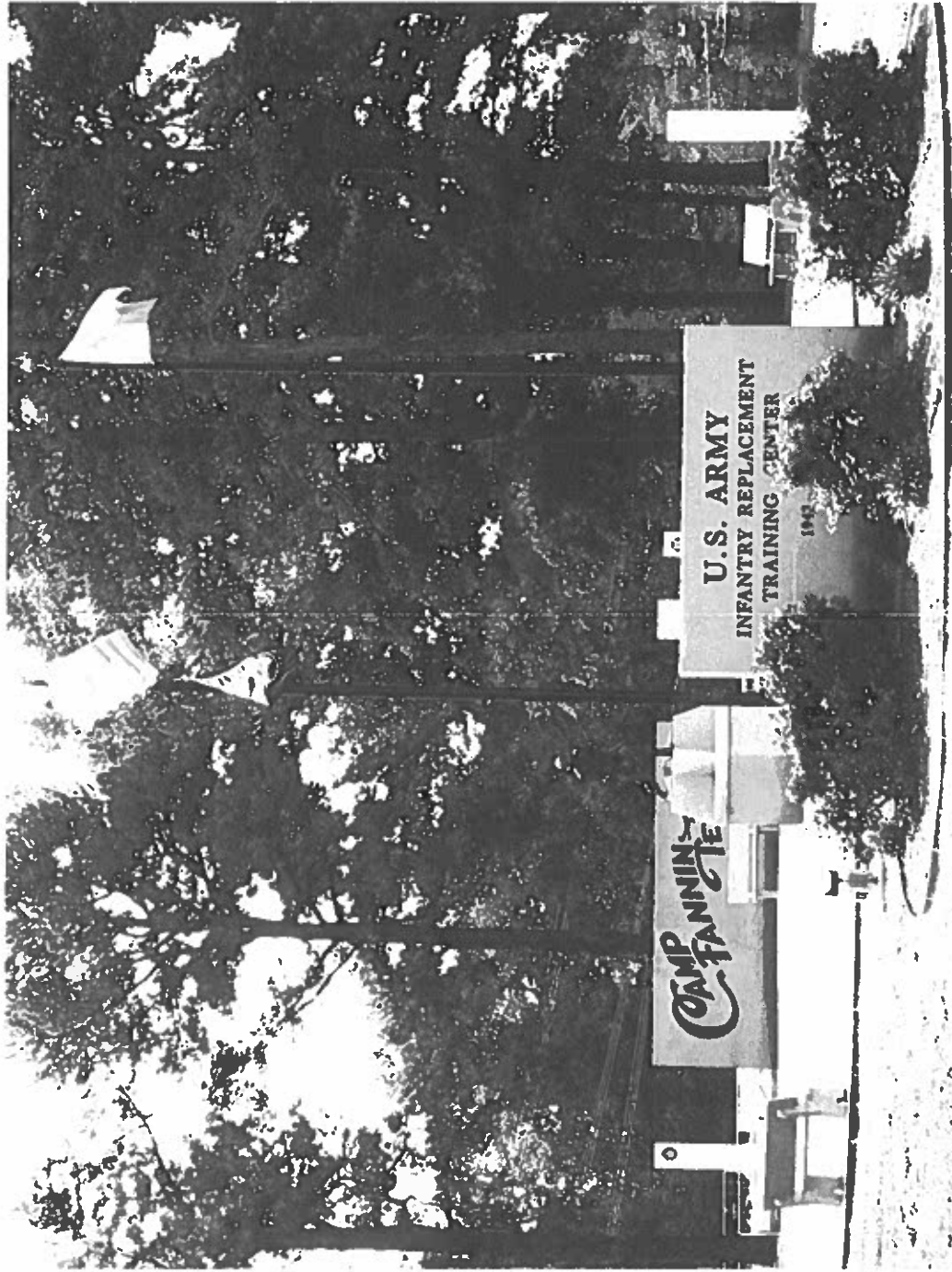
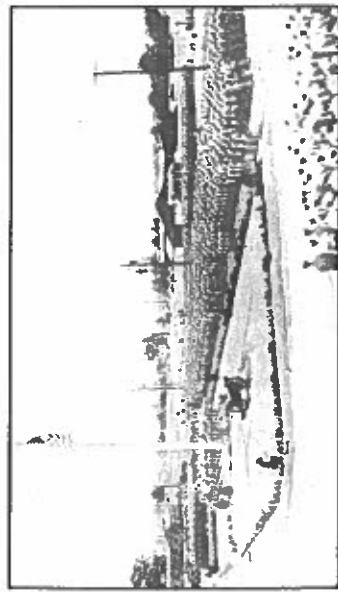
The Camp Fannin Veterans Memorial was dedicated in April 2005 as a living memorial to all veterans who served during World War II. Inscribed granite markers honor those who served in the Army (Army Air Corps), Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and Merchant Marines.

Located on the grounds of the Camp Fannin Station Hospital, it is now the site of The University of Texas Health Science Center at Tyler.

Set on a 60' circular plaza the memorial's centerpiece is a life sized bronze statue of a Camp Fannin trainee. The statue is precise in every detail from the helmet to the M-1 rifle to the spats on the combat boots.

Encircled around the circumference of the plaza are ten granite benches. Each bench is dedicated in honor of or in memory of Camp Fannin trainees.

A historical plaque on the site details the history of Camp Fannin Infantry Replacement Training Center (IRTC) and the 200,000 men that trained at the camp from May 1943 to June 1946.



*The Camp Fannin Veterans Memorial is dedicated to all Branches of Service during WWII and to all Veterans who have served our Nation.*

Visitors are encouraged to spend a quiet moment to reflect on the significance of the memorial and to honor those who gave their lives for our freedom.

Self guided tours of the original 15,000 acre camp; including Regimental markers and site locations for various training exercise areas are identified in the guide. Guides may be obtained at the UTHSCT Hospital Information Desk.

The Camp Fannin Association is a Texas Not for Profit Organization that was formed in 1990 by former Camp Fannin Trainees and Cadre and friends.

Membership in the Association and the Ladies Auxiliary is open to all veterans and non-veterans who have a desire to preserve the history and legacy of Camp Fannin IRTC.

***For information on how you can become involved in this most worthwhile effort contact:***

Camp Fannin Association, P.O. Box 132024,  
Tyler, TX 75713 or on our website:  
[www.campfannin.com](http://www.campfannin.com)

## DIRECTIONS TO THE CAMP FANNIN VETERANS MEMORIAL

The University of Texas  
Health Science Center at Tyler  
11937 U. S. Highway 271  
Tyler, Texas 75708

From the East:

Take exit 571 off of Interstate 20 (U.S. Highway 271). Go South on U.S. 271 for four miles and turn right into The University of Texas Health Science Center 100 yards after the intersection of US 271 and Texas Highway 155. Proceed one-tenth of a mile and turn left at the Camp Fannin Memorial sign.

From the West:

Take exit 556 off of Interstate 20 (Texas Highway 155). Go South on Tx Hwy 155 for two miles. Turn right into The University of Texas Health Science Center and proceed one-tenth of a mile. Turn left at the stop sign and right at the next stop sign. Then turn left at the Camp Fannin Memorial sign.

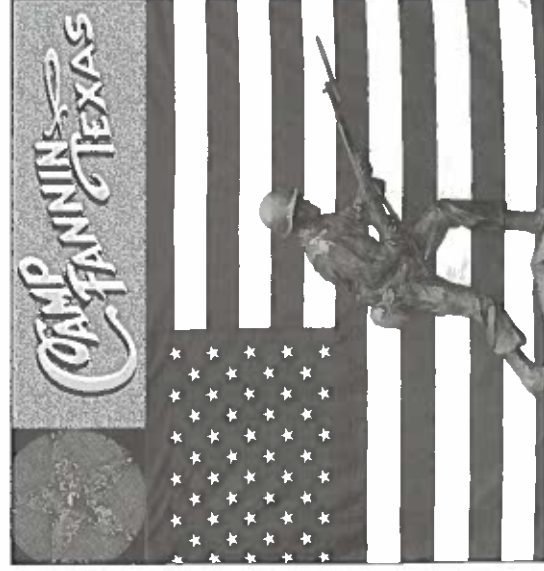
From the City of Tyler:

Take US Hwy 271-Tx Hwy 155 North from NNE Loop 323. Go north four miles and turn left at the entrance to The University of Texas Health Science Center at Tyler.

**CAMP FANNIN VETERANS MEMORIAL**

The University of Texas  
Health Science Center at Tyler  
11937 U.S. Highway 271  
Tyler, Texas 75708

# CAMP FANNIN VETERANS MEMORIAL



## *About the*

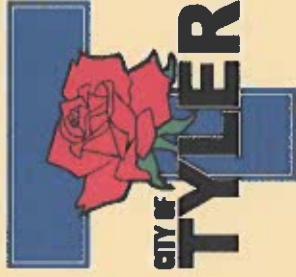
# *Half Mile of History*

The City of Tyler's historic preservation program, the Half Mile of History, resulted from a recommendation that came out of the Tyler 21 planning process. The fifth goal of the Historic Preservation Chapter is:

*"Promote and display diverse aspects of Tyler's history to enhance resident and visitor awareness of its importance."*

The goal of the Half Mile of History is to pay tribute to people, places and events that have contributed to the rich history of Tyler and Smith County.

The Half Mile of History is a permanent, outdoor, half-mile loop that surrounds the square in the heart of downtown Tyler. Stone plaques are placed in the sidewalk along the Half Mile of History to commemorate significant people, places or events.



*A Natural Beauty*

# *Half Mile of History Marker Unveiling*

*in honor of*

# *Camp Fannin*

*Thursday, Nov. 11, 2009*

The U.S. Government War Department created Camp Fannin in 1942. With the support of U.S. Congressman Lindley Beckworth, U.S. Senator Tom Connally and a group of Tyler business leaders, a 15,000-acre site eight miles northeast of downtown Tyler was selected for the camp.

The federal government purchased more than 2,000 acres for the training center and leased 13,000 acres for use as bivouac areas, rifle ranges, machine gun ranges and other areas necessary for the training of U.S. Army recruits and draftees. The camp opened in March 1943 and received its first recruits for training in May 1943. The last training cycle ended in December 1945. It is estimated that more than 200,000 young men were trained at Camp Fannin and an estimated 2,000 civilians were employed at the camp during its peak. In all, up to 30,000 men and women were at the camp on a daily basis.

At the end of World War II, Camp Fannin was used as a discharge center and was deactivated in June of 1946. In 1948, the War Assets Administration decided the station hospital and 647 acres to the State of Texas for use as a tuberculosis hospital. The remainder of the 2,000 acres of land was sold; much of it was purchased by local business leaders and is now known as Owentown and the East Texas Center.

During the war, the citizens of Tyler welcomed Camp Fannin trainees into their homes, churches and businesses. Young men from throughout the United States celebrated most of their weekend passes in Tyler. Many of the trainees met their future spouses while at Camp Fannin and settled in Tyler after the war. A great number of the "greatest generation" integrated into the Tyler community as bankers, farmers, small businessmen, accountants, and as active and involved citizens.

Today, 66 years after the opening of Camp Fannin, its legacy remains as one of the major influences on the City of Tyler's historic growth.



*A Natural Beauty*

# *Half Mile of History Marker Unveiling in honor of Camp Fannin*

*Thursday, Nov. 11, 2009*

*Opening Remarks: Mayor Barbara Bass  
Presentation of the Colors: Tyler Fire Department  
Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer*

*Half Mile of History honoree history by:  
Barbara Holly, Planning Department Director*

*Unveiling of Markers and Certificate Presentation  
Musical Tribute  
Responses*

*Special Announcements*

*Adjourn; reception following*

